

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANJUL 01061 011038Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 NSC-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 AGRE-00 EB-08 AID-05

OMB-01 SP-02 XMB-02 STR-04 IO-13 /063 W

-----027969 011231Z /50

R 010855Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4551

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USUN NEW YORK 124

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANJUL 1061

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN EGEN GA

SUBJ: GAMBIAN POSITION ON ECOWAS

REF: STATE 159681

1. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS POSED REFTEL ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) THE GAMBIA IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO ECOWAS, VIEWING IT AS
ESSENTIAL TO LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT GAMBIAN ECONOMY, WHICH IS
ONE OF SMALLEST IN AFRICA.

B) ONLY REGIONAL COMMITMENTS WHICH THE GAMBIA HAS OUTSIDE
ECOWAS ARE WITH SENEGAT, AND THEY WOULD NOT POSE CONFLICT.

C) THE GAMBIA SUPPORTS
WEST AFRICAN CLEARING HOUSE, AND HAS
ONE OF STRONGEST CURRENCIES IN ANGLOPHONE AFRICA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANJUL 01061 011038Z

D) GOOD TELECOMMUNICATIONS NOW EXIST WITH SENEGAL, BUT
IMPROVEMENT NEEDED FOR SERVICE TO OTHER NEIGHBORS. TRANS-
GAMBIA BARRAGE/BRIDGE, LINKED WITH CASAMANCE AND GUINEA-
BISSAU ROAD NETWORK (INCLUDING BANJUL-ZIGUINCHOR-BISSAU
RAOD) WOULD GREATLY ASSIST GAMBIAN TRADE WITH THESE NEIGHBORS.

E) GAMBIAN EXPORT TRADE OVER 90 PER CENT DEPENDENT ON PEANUT

PRODUCTS, THUS COMPETITION COULD ARISE WITH OTHER ECOWAS
PEANUT PRODUCERS.

F) ASSUMING GOOD WORLD MARKET FOR PEANUTS, COMPETITION WITH
NEIGHBORS FOR EXPORT OF PEANUT PRODUCTS SHOULD NOT BE SEVERE.

G) THE GAMBIA TAKES JUSTIFIABLE PRIDE IN MANAGING ITS

MODEST FINANCIAL RESOURCES WITH PRUDENCE, AND MEETING ALL
OF ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.

H) CUSTOMS ACCOUNT FOR BETWEEN 60 AND 70 PER CENT OF GOTG
REVENUES.

I) THEORETICALLY, FUND COULD COMPENSATE FOR LOSS OF CUSTOMS REVE-
NUE, BUT CLEARLY THIS WILL BE MAJOR ECOWAS-RELATED ISSUE FOR THE
GAMBIA.

J) FROM THIS RATHER ISOTATED VANTAGE, SCHEDULE APPEARS NOTABLY
OPTIMISTIC.

K) IF ECOWAS SUCCEEDS IN STRENGTHENING ECONOMIES OF ITS
MEMBERS, GREATER MARKET AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD BE
PRESENT FOR OUTSIDE CAPITAL AND TRADE.

2. GOTG CLEARLY SEES ECOWAS AS HAVING IMPORTANT ADVANTAGES
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANJUL 01061 011038Z

FOR SMALLEST STATES IN REGION. THUS, GAMBIA WILL BE STRONGLY
SUPPORTIVE OF INITIATIVES TO MAKE ORGANIZATION EFFECTIVE. HOWEVER,
GAMBIANS UNDER NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT EXTENT TO WHICH THEY
CANNOT INFLUENCE ECOWAS' ACTIONS.
WYGANT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANJUL01061
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770274-0988
Format: TEL
From: BANJUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197708112/aaaadrhg.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: be70b350-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 159681
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1439009
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GAMBIAN POSITION ON ECOWAS
TAGS: ECIN, EGEN, PORG, GA, XY, ECOWAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/be70b350-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009